Amendments To The Drawings

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to FIG. 1. This sheet replaces the original sheet FIG. 1.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet
New Sheet
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Specification Objection

The Examiner has objected to the abstract of the disclosure because the abstract was more than 150 words in length. This abstract has been amended.

Claim Objections

The Examiner has objected to claims 2 and 4 because claim 2 used the term "comprises" instead of "comprising" and claim 4 used the term "IPOR" instead of "internal pressure override". The claims have been amended to the Examiners suggested language.

35 U.S.C. § 112 First Paragraph Rejection

The Examiner has rejected claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, stating that "one is not enabled as to how the single relief valve assembly can communicate pressurized fluid from the fluid outlet port to the fluid inlet port." Although Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's assertion that one skilled in the art would not be enabled "as to how the single relief valve assembly can communicate pressurized fluid from the fluid outlet port to the fluid inlet port" for the reasons stated below, Applicant has amended the schematic representation of the relief valves 25 and 27 in FIG. 1 to better illustrate that which is described in paragraph 36 of Applicant's application. Specifically, the schematic representation has been amended to include a center section of the "head" of the relief valve 25 and 27 that will open when the pressure in conduit 15 and 17, respectively, increases beyond a predetermined point.

Relief valves of this type are well known in the art. For example, U.S. Pat. No. 2,807,238 entitled "Hydraulic System and Vacuum Eliminating and Relief Valve Therefore", issued on Sept. 24, 1957 to inventor John S. Pilch, describes a relief valve that both relieves pressure from a hydraulic line (Col. 2, lines 67-72) and provides pressurized fluid to the hydraulic line (Col. 3, lines 56-61). In addition, the schematic representation of the relief valve, as shown in the amended FIG. 1, appears in Eaton Corporation's "Series 2" Heavy Duty Hydrostatic Pump catalog (Catalog # 11-608, dated January 1997) on page 12. The cover page of that catalog and the schematic representation shown on page 12 have been attached hereto.

35 U.S.C. § 102(b) Rejection

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-6 as being anticipated by Geringer, U.S. Pat. No. 6,109,030 ("Geringer Patent"). Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's interpretation of the Geringer Patent for the reasons stated below.

The Examiner has stated that the Geringer Patent discloses "a pressure override valve means 40". However, the Applicant respectfully asserts that the Geringer Patent does not disclose a pressure override valve means. The Geringer Patent discloses "load sensing controls 40", which is very different than a pressure override valve. In column 3, lines 66-67 and column 4, lines 1-2 of the Geringer Patent, the "load sensing control" is described as follows: "The load sensing controls 40 modulate between the terminal positions so as to *control* the fluid displacement and *output flow of the pump* to a rate required *for maintaining a constant pressure drop across the flow control valve* 19" (Emphasis added). A pressure override valve, on the other hand, is not flow control valve that maintains a constant pressure drop across a flow control valve. Rather, a pressure override valve is a valve that limits the pressure output of the pump. Therefore, the primary distinction between a "load sensing control" and a pressure override valve is that the "load sensing control" limits the flow output from the pump but does not limit the pressure output, while the pressure override valve limits the pressure output.

Even though the load sensing control 40 is not the equivalent of a pressure override valve, the Geringer Patent discloses a "load sensing control 40" for each pump. In paragraph 9 of the BACKGROUND OF THE DISCLOSURE of the present application, the Applicant stated that "...such redundancy does add substantially to the overall cost of the tandem pump..." Therefore, as claimed in the present application, the pressure override valve 71,73 is *only* associated with the first pump 11.

For the reasons stated above, the Applicant respectfully disagrees that the Geringer Patent anticipates the present invention.

In summary, Applicant has amended the Abstract, FIG. 1 of the drawings, and the claims and now believes the case to be in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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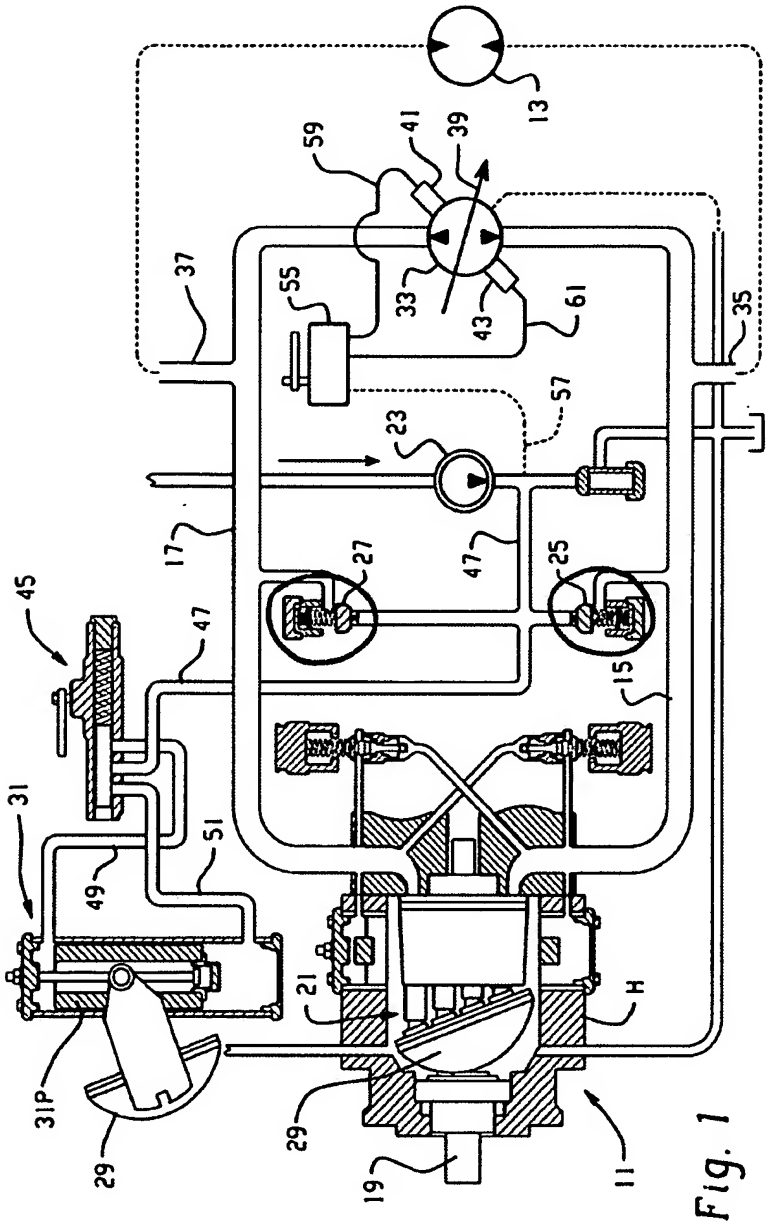

Fig. 1